

MOCKINGBIRD™ 7

MARVEL

CAIN
NIEMCZYK
PARSONS
ROSENBERG



CIVIL
WAR II

THE DAILY BLOWHOLE

Your source for news aboard the *Diamond Porpoise*!



DAY 4

FORECAST

Ahoy!

I know you all have a lot of concerns about a few recent developments on board, and I'd like to address those here.

The ship is running low on Mountain Dew. The crew is aware of the situation and we will be implementing a rationing program. We appreciate your understanding.

Also, a passenger has been murdered. In an unrelated safety note, I'd like to remind you all to watch your step as we've had several reports of guests tripping over corgis.

Enjoy your cruise!

Yours sincerely,
Captain Katie Kubert



Sunrise: 7:55 A.M.



Sunset: 8:46 P.M.



Chance of alien abduction: **HIGH**

FAQ

Q: Am I a murder suspect?

A: Yes! Please cooperate with the investigation. And remember, you have no legal rights at sea!

Q: Can I buy a fez on board?

A: Yes. Fezzes are available at Ye Olde Fez Shoppe, located next to the CVS Pharmacy on level 2.

Today's wi-fi password is: KAGEL

The Crew

Writer: **Chelsea Cain**

Penciller: **Kate Niemczyk**

Inker: **Sean Parsons**

Color Artist: **Rachelle Rosenberg**

Letterer: **VC's Joe Caramagna**

Cover: **Joëlle Jones & Rachelle Rosenberg**

Production Design: **Carlos Lao**

Assistant Editor: **Christina Harrington**

Editor: **Katie Kubert**

Executive Editor: **Tom Brevoort**

Editor in Chief: **Axel Alonso**

Chief Creative Officer: **Joe Quesada**

Publisher: **Dan Buckley**

Executive Producer: **Alan Fine**

Please report sightings of ghost pirates and merpeople directly to the ship's cruise director, Brad Robertson. Anyone interested in learning more about ghost pirates can meet Brad at the telescope station for a seminar. The cost of that event is not included in your cruise package.

THE DIAMOND PORPOISE.
SOMEWHERE NEAR
THE BERMUDA TRIANGLE.

SO, IF THE PERSON PAYING
FOR YOUR CRUISE GETS
MURDERED, YOU STILL
GET UNLIMITED FOOD AT
THE BUFFET, RIGHT?
#ASKINGFORAFRIEND

TELL ME
AGAIN, HOW YOU
ENDED UP WITH A
KEY TO THE
VICTIM'S
STATEROOM?

FUNNY STORY,
CAPTAIN...I MUST HAVE
ACCIDENTALLY PICKED UP
THE **WRONG** KEY AT THE
POOL EARLIER TODAY. THEN
I ACCIDENTALLY MISTOOK
HIS STATEROOM
FOR MY OWN.

≡COUGH≡

HUNTER
STOLE IT.

WHY ARE
YOU DRESSED
LIKE **GRIEVING**
ACROBATS?

DIAMOND
PORPOISE

IT'S A
BURGLING OUTFIT,
OBVIOUSLY. I MEAN, WHY
ELSE WOULD I BE
WEARING THIS HAT?

UM, YOU
KNOW WHO I
AM, RIGHT?

THAT SOUNDED
EGOMANIACAL, BUT
SERIOUSLY, YOU DO KNOW
WHO I AM, RIGHT? BOBBI
MORSE...**MOCKINGBIRD**...
NOTHING? WOW.
OKAY.

≡SIGH≡ I'M
HAWKEYE'S
EX-WIFE.

THE DEAD GUY
IN THE HORSE HEAD
MASK IS **GARFIELD EDSAL**.
HE CONTACTED ME A FEW
DAYS AGO AND SAID HE HAD
EVIDENCE VITAL TO MY EX-
HUSBAND'S **MURDER TRIAL**.
YOU'VE HEARD ABOUT THAT,
RIGHT? GOOD.

HORSEHEAD
BOUGHT MY TICKET.
WE MET ON BOARD
THREE TIMES, BUT HE
NEVER GAVE UP
THE EVIDENCE.

I'LL ALWAYS
REMEMBER THE FIRST
TIME I SAW BOBBI. SHE
WAS WEARING **KEVLAR**
AND CLENCHING A **BOWIE**
KNIFE BETWEEN
HER TEETH.

HER HAIR
WAS PULLED BACK,
BUT A STRAND OF
BLONDE HAD COME
LOOSE AND BRUSHED
AGAINST HER CHEEK AS
SHE SCREAMED AT ME
TO CLEAR THE
PERIMETER.

AND WHAT
IS YOUR
RELATIONSHIP
EXACTLY?

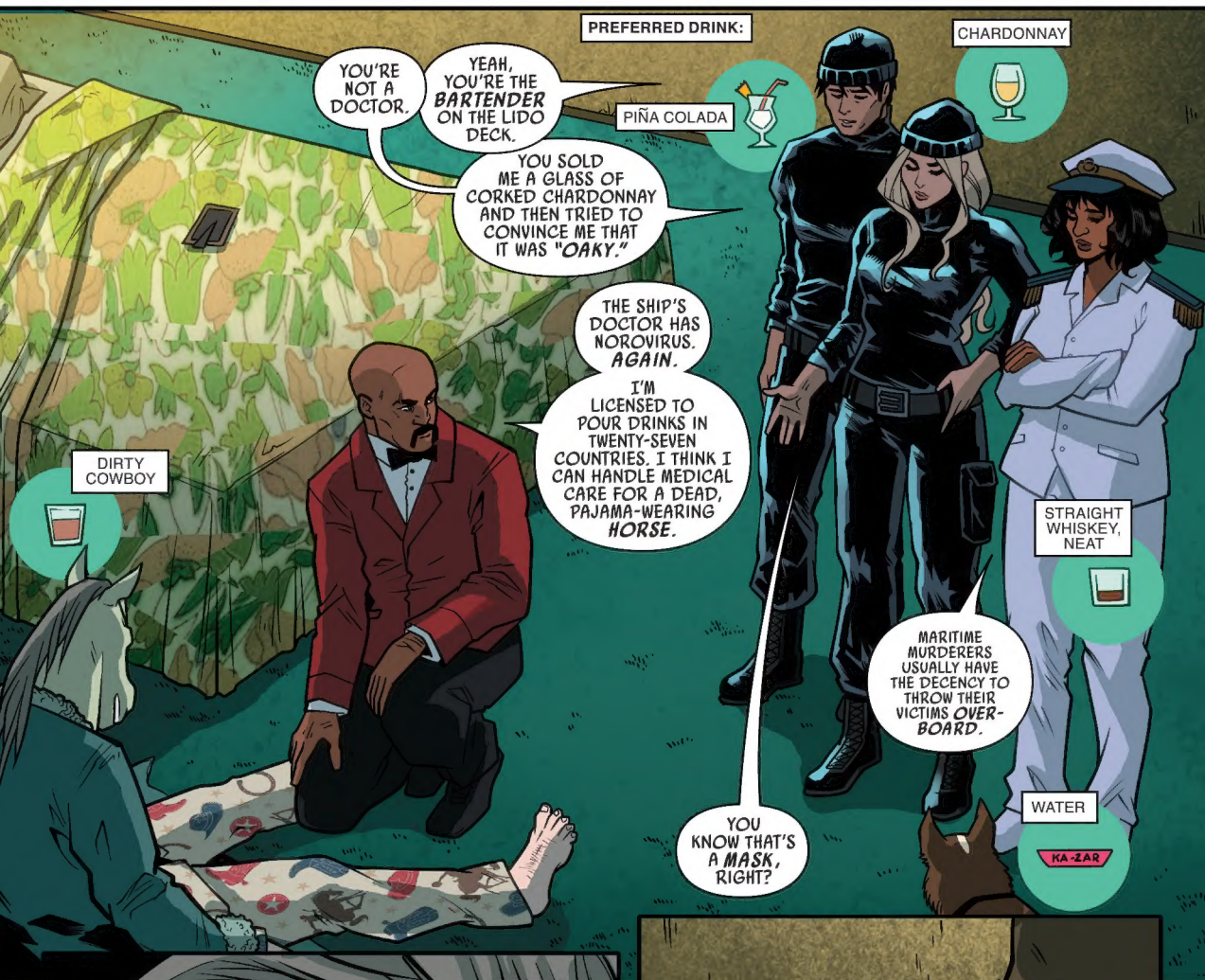
HE'S A
COLLEAGUE.

WE WERE
GOING TO...
A **NINJA**
DANCE?

THE SCENE
OF THE CRIME.



WELL,
I THINK HE'S
DEFINITELY
DEAD.



I THOUGHT
HIS SKIN
LOOKED
RUBBERY.



THIS
MAN SMELLS
LIKE A DIRTY
COWBOY.



I WAS STARTING TO GET THE FEELING THAT THIS SHIP MIGHT NOT BE EQUIPPED TO CONDUCT A **MURDER INVESTIGATION**.

YOU THINK THROWING THE BODY OVERBOARD IS A **BAD IDEA**, RIGHT?

MAY I MAKE A SUGGESTION?

ON THE BRIDGE.

I FIND THAT THINGS JUST GO BETTER WHEN I'M IN CHARGE.

BY THE POWER VESTED IN ME BY MARITIME LAW AS CAPTAIN OF THIS SHIP, I DO HEREBY NAME YOU, **BOBBI MORSE, LEAD SHIP DETECTIVE.**

AND YOU, **LANCE HUNTER, HER DEPUTY**, AND GRANT YOU BOTH FULL ACCESS AND AUTHORITY REQUIRED TO CONDUCT YOUR INVESTIGATION.

WHY DO I HAVE TO BE THE **DEPUTY**?

BECAUSE I HAVE THE **HAT**.

WHERE DID YOU EVEN **GET** THAT HAT? AND WHEN DID YOU CHANGE CLOTHES?

SHHH. STOP WHISPERING.

CONGRATULATIONS, YOU GUYS.

BACK AT THE SCENE OF THE CRIME.

GARFIELD EDSAL WAS DEAD. THE EVIDENCE HE CLAIMED HE HAD WASN'T IN HIS STATEROOM.

(HUNTER AND I HAD TAKEN A PEEK BEFORE REPORTING THE MURDER.)

MY ONLY HOPE WAS THAT THE KILLER HAD BEATEN US TO IT.

ACCORDING TO THE SHIP'S COMPUTER, THE DOOR TO THE STATEROOM WAS OPENED AT 2PM. AND NOT AGAIN UNTIL YOU AND DEPUTY HUNTER ENTERED.

PLEASE DON'T CALL ME THAT.

CAN I GET A GLASS OF CHARDONNAY?

IT WAS A LOCKED ROOM MYSTERY.

RIGOR HADN'T SET IN. HE'S ONLY BEEN DEAD A FEW HOURS.

EDSAL HAD BEEN MURDERED WHILE APPARENTLY ALONE IN HIS STATEROOM.

BUT IF I HOPED TO GET MY MIND OFF MY EX-HUSBAND'S TRIAL, I HAD ANOTHER THING COMING.

WE REVIEWED THE CLUES.

ARTISAN-MADE DRIFTWOOD NORTHSTAR FIGURE...

1

HULK LIVES

THE KILLER APPEARED TO HAVE AN AGENDA.



2

...SIMILAR TO ONE I PURCHASED AT THE CRUISE SHIP MAKER FAIRE LAST NIGHT.

3

A MEMENTO FROM HIS CAT.



A HULK MEMORIAL ARM BAND DISCARDED ON THE FLOOR.

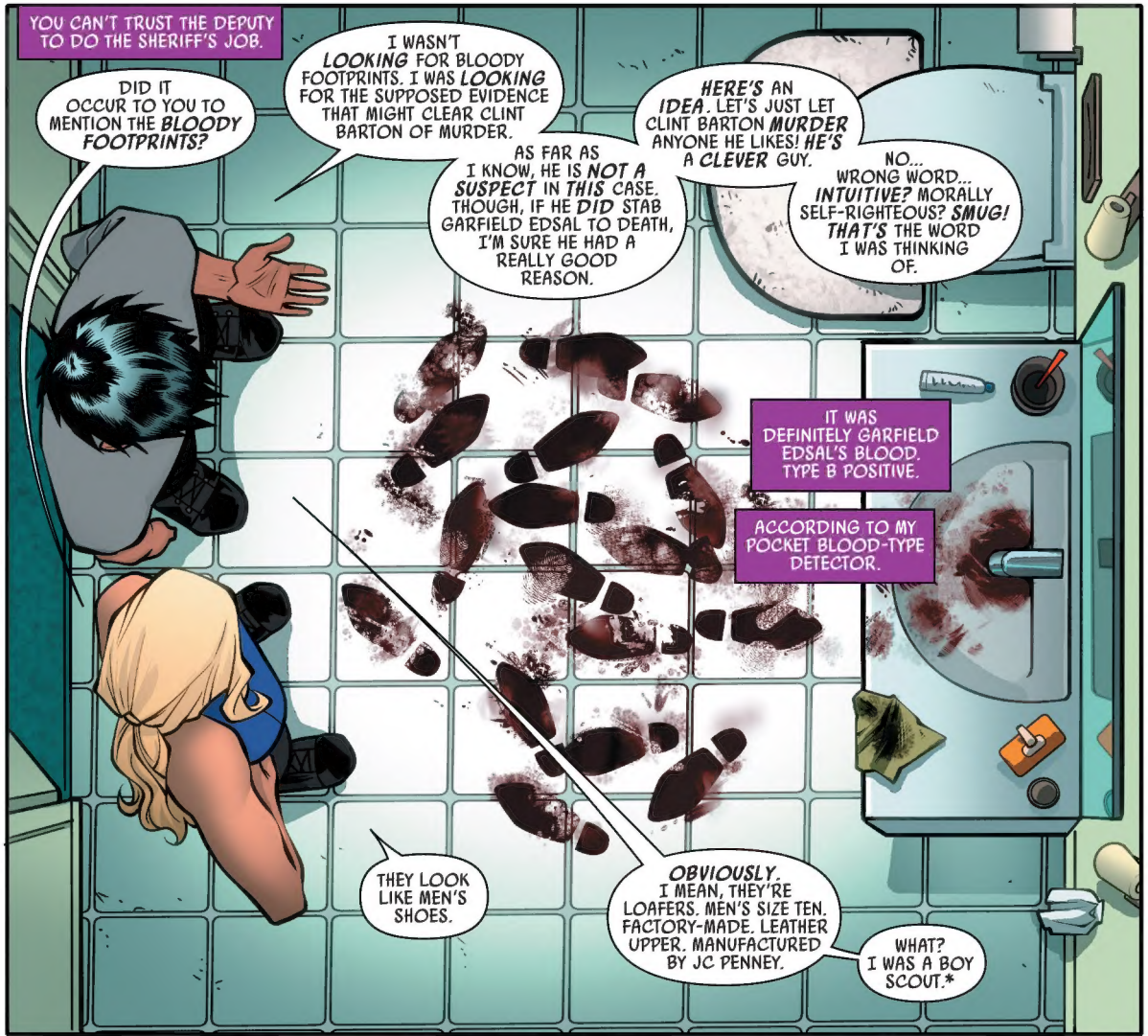
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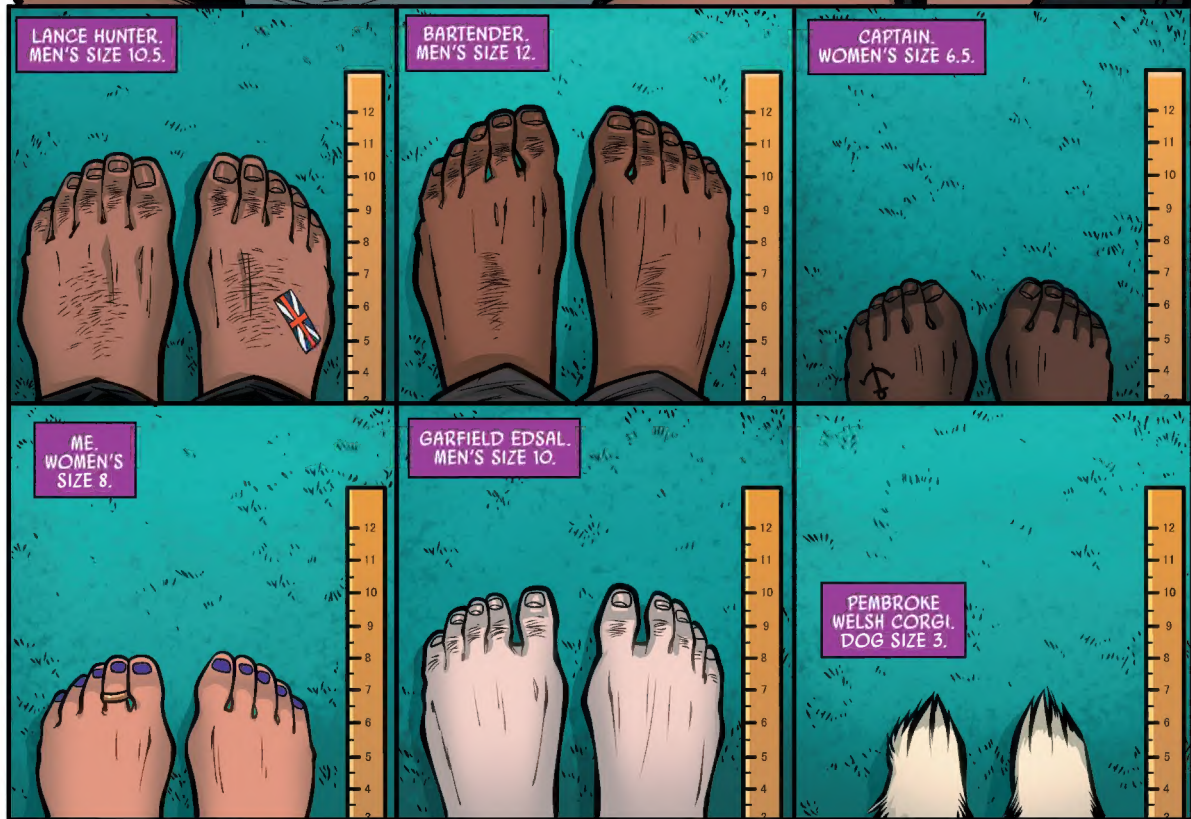
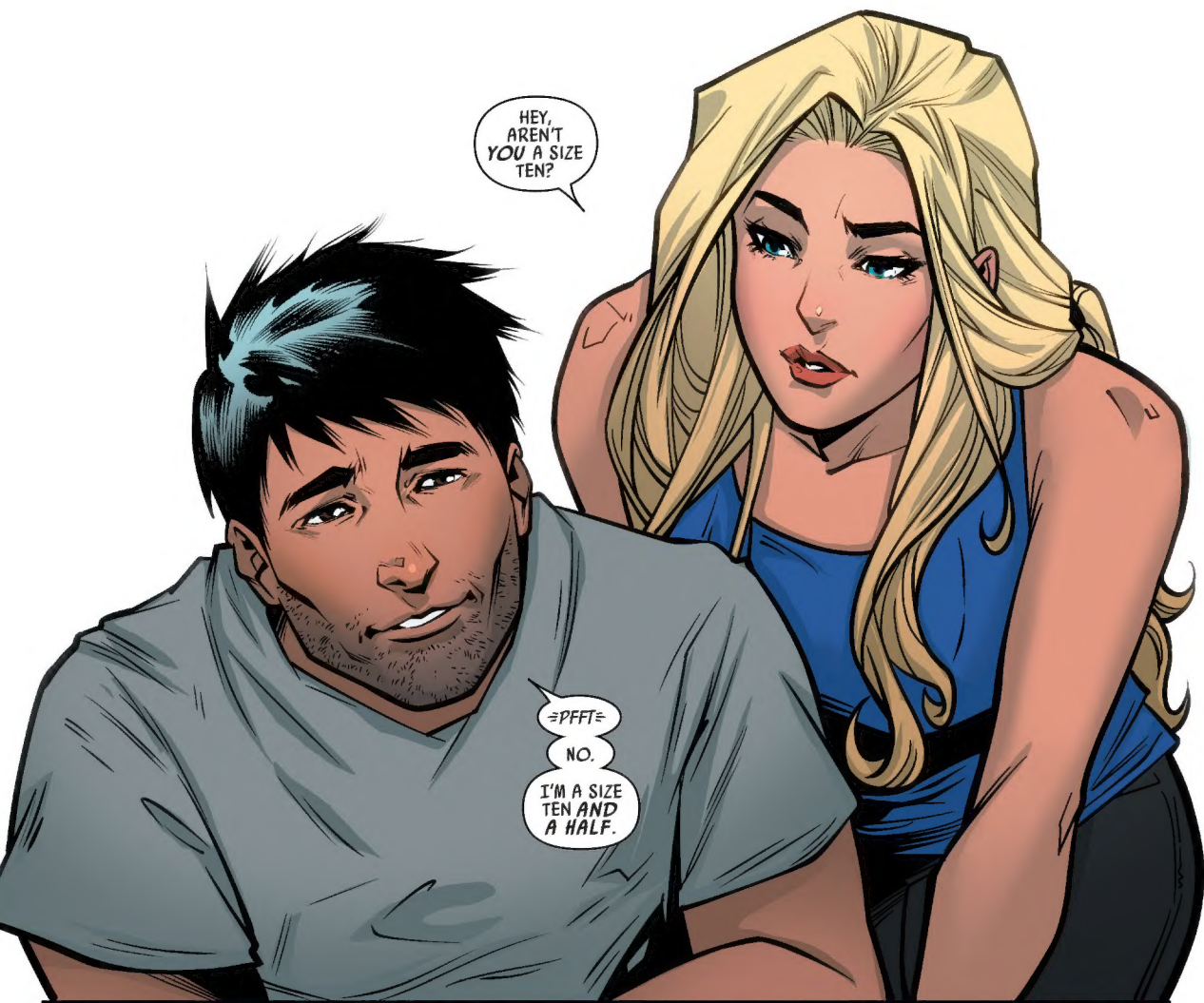


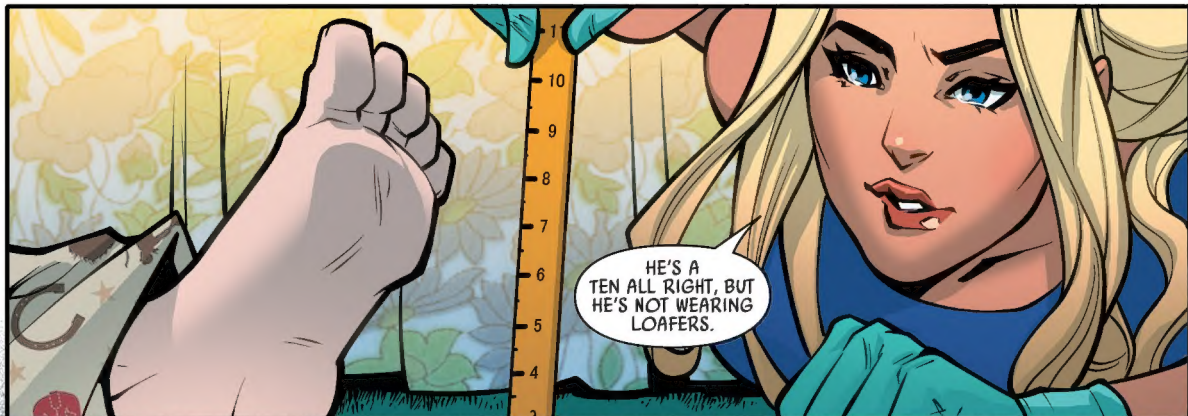
A BLOODY STEAK KNIFE. NO PRINTS.



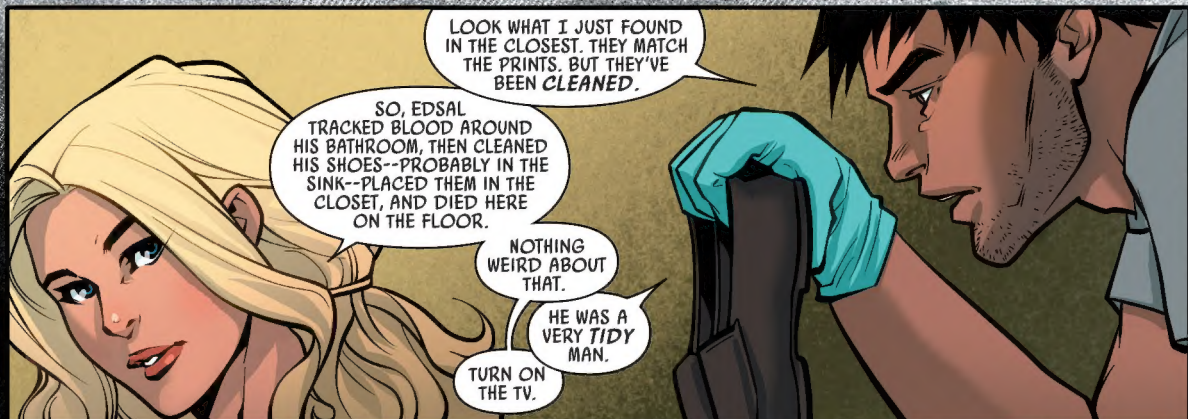
5







HE'S A TEN ALL RIGHT, BUT HE'S NOT WEARING LOAFERS.



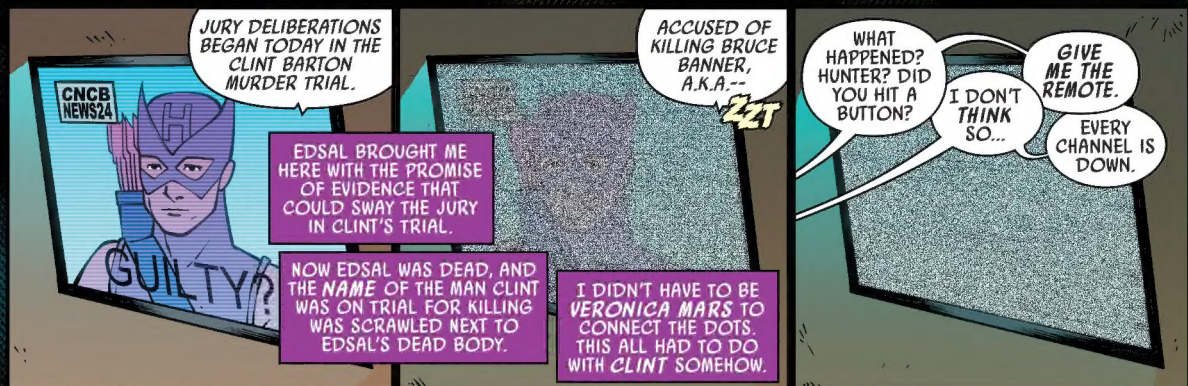
LOOK WHAT I JUST FOUND IN THE CLOSET. THEY MATCH THE PRINTS. BUT THEY'VE BEEN CLEANED.

SO, EDSAL TRACKED BLOOD AROUND HIS BATHROOM, THEN CLEANED HIS SHOES--PROBABLY IN THE SINK--PLACED THEM IN THE CLOSET, AND DIED HERE ON THE FLOOR.

NOTHING WEIRD ABOUT THAT.

HE WAS A VERY TIDY MAN.

TURN ON THE TV.



JURY DELIBERATIONS BEGAN TODAY IN THE CLINT BARTON MURDER TRIAL.

ACCUSED OF KILLING BRUCE BANNER, A.K.A.--

WHAT HAPPENED? HUNTER? DID YOU HIT A BUTTON?

I DON'T THINK SO...

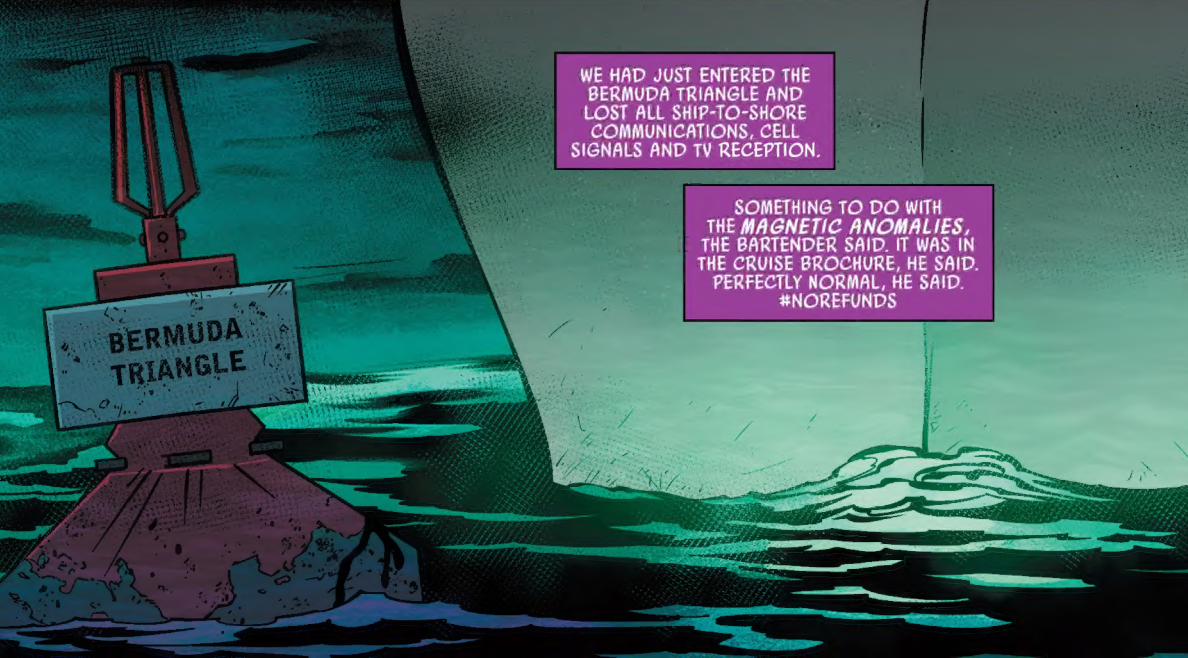
GIVE ME THE REMOTE.

EVERY CHANNEL IS DOWN.

EDSAL BROUGHT ME HERE WITH THE PROMISE OF EVIDENCE THAT COULD SWAY THE JURY IN CLINT'S TRIAL.

NOW EDSAL WAS DEAD, AND THE NAME OF THE MAN CLINT WAS ON TRIAL FOR KILLING WAS SCRAWLED NEXT TO EDSAL'S DEAD BODY.

I DIDN'T HAVE TO BE VERONICA MARS TO CONNECT THE DOTS. THIS ALL HAD TO DO WITH CLINT SOMEHOW.



WE HAD JUST ENTERED THE BERMUDA TRIANGLE AND LOST ALL SHIP-TO-SHORE COMMUNICATIONS, CELL SIGNALS AND TV RECEPTION.

SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE MAGNETIC ANOMALIES, THE BARTENDER SAID. IT WAS IN THE CRUISE BROCHURE, HE SAID. PERFECTLY NORMAL, HE SAID. #NOREFUNDS

OF COURSE ALL OF THIS WAS IMPOSSIBLE

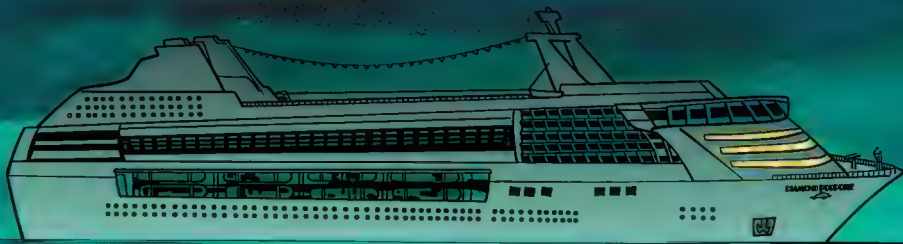
THE BERMUDA TRIANGLE ISN'T REAL. IT'S A CULTURAL MYTH.

THERE'S NO TIME WARP. NO REVERSE GRAVITY FIELDS. NO ERUPTIONS OF METHANE GAS FROM THE OCEAN FLOOR. NO ALIENS.

ARE YOU GUYS LISTENING TO ME?

PSST--WHAT ABOUT GHOST SHIPS?

I'VE SEEN THEM WITH MY OWN EYES.



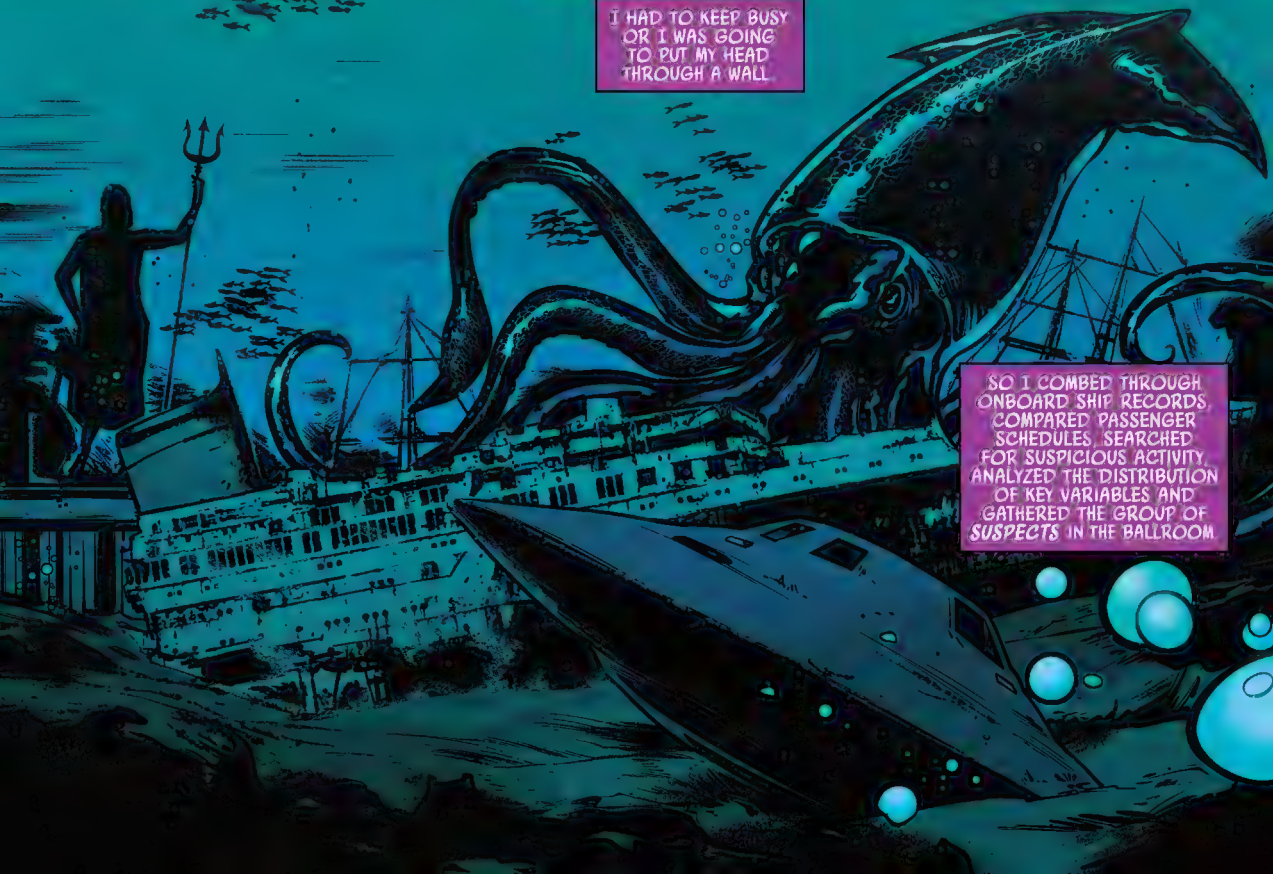
THE TRUTH BEHIND THE BERMUDA TRIANGLE WOULD HAVE TO WAIT FOR ANOTHER DAY

IN THE MEANTIME, WE HAD ENTERED A BLACK HOLE OF CELL PHONE DEAD ZONE, NO INTERNET AND CRAPPY TV RECEPTION.

IT WAS LIKE THE EIGHTIES ALL OVER AGAIN.

I HAD TO KEEP BUSY OR I WAS GOING TO PUT MY HEAD THROUGH A WALL.

SO I COMBED THROUGH ONBOARD SHIP RECORDS, COMPARED PASSENGER SCHEDULES, SEARCHED FOR SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY, ANALYZED THE DISTRIBUTION OF KEY VARIABLES AND GATHERED THE GROUP OF SUSPECTS IN THE BALLROOM.



THE PRIME
SUSPECTS WERE A
MOTLEY CREW

IS THIS
BECAUSE I
PLAY D&D?
BECAUSE THAT'S
PROFILING.



**Gorgons
in the
Dark Wood**
14th edition

Marc Mohan
Dungeon Master

Level: 8
Speed: 10
Special Powers:
Ac: 15
Hp: 36
Mage Dice
Math Wizardry

Level: 10
Speed: 20
Special Powers:
Ac: 13
Hp: 45
Bardic Storytelling
Women's Lacrosse



Aubrey Webber
Doubleclick

Level: 6
Speed: 32
Special Powers:
Ac: 15
Hp: 17
Proficient With Cello
and Vorpel Sword
+5 To Pitch Attack



John Roderick
Musician, Raconteur



Paul Sabourin
Musician

Level: 16
Speed: 7
Special Powers:
Ac: 15
Hp: 39
Stage Banter
Storm Surge

Level: 11
Speed: 5
Special Powers:
Ac: 34
Hp: 43
Hulk Smash
Illustration



Kate Niemczyk
Artist



Driftwood
Artisan

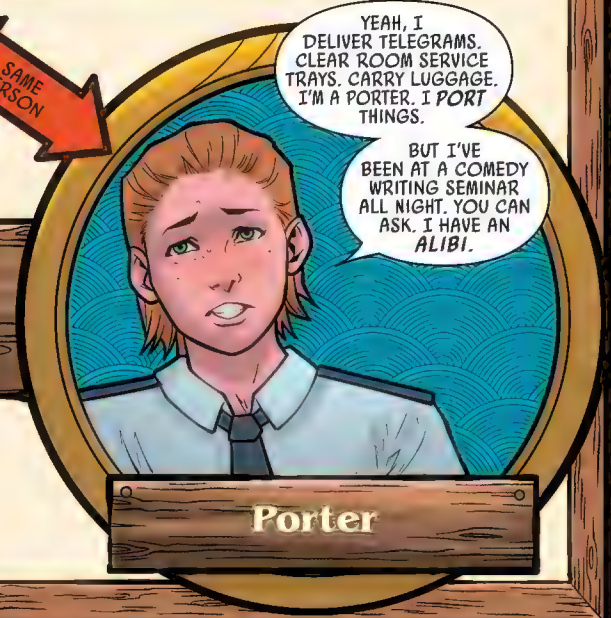
I SOLD THE
HORSEHEAD GUY A
NORTHSTAR SCULPTURE.
SOME OF MY BEST WORK.
HE LOVED THE PIECE. HE
SAID I HAD A **STRONG
SPIRIT**. THAT I HAD BEEN
CHOSEN FOR GREAT
THINGS.

I THINK
HE HAS A FRIEND
WHO OWNS A
GALLERY?

IT WAS
HARD TO HEAR
HIM THROUGH
THE MASK.

Level: 7
Speed: 10
Special Powers:
Ac: 15
Hp: 24
Whittling

Level: 7
Speed: 10
Special Powers:
Ac: 15
Hp: 24
Porting



Porter

YEAH, I
DELIVER TELEGRAMS.
CLEAR ROOM SERVICE
TRAYS. CARRY LUGGAGE.
I'M A PORTER. I **PORT**
THINGS.

BUT I'VE
BEEN AT A COMEDY
WRITING SEMINAR
ALL NIGHT. YOU CAN
ASK. I HAVE AN
ALIBI.





The Monkey's
Paw



The Figure
Eight



The
Square

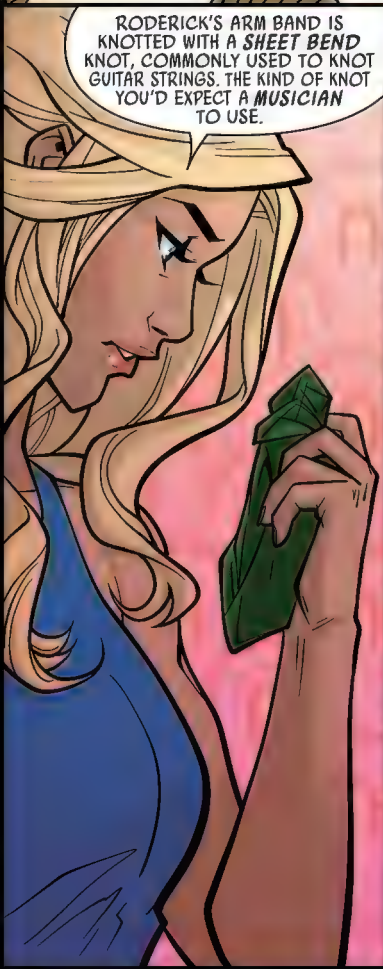


The
Bowline



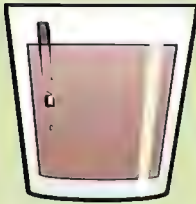
The Sheet
Bend

A Brief Overview Of Knots

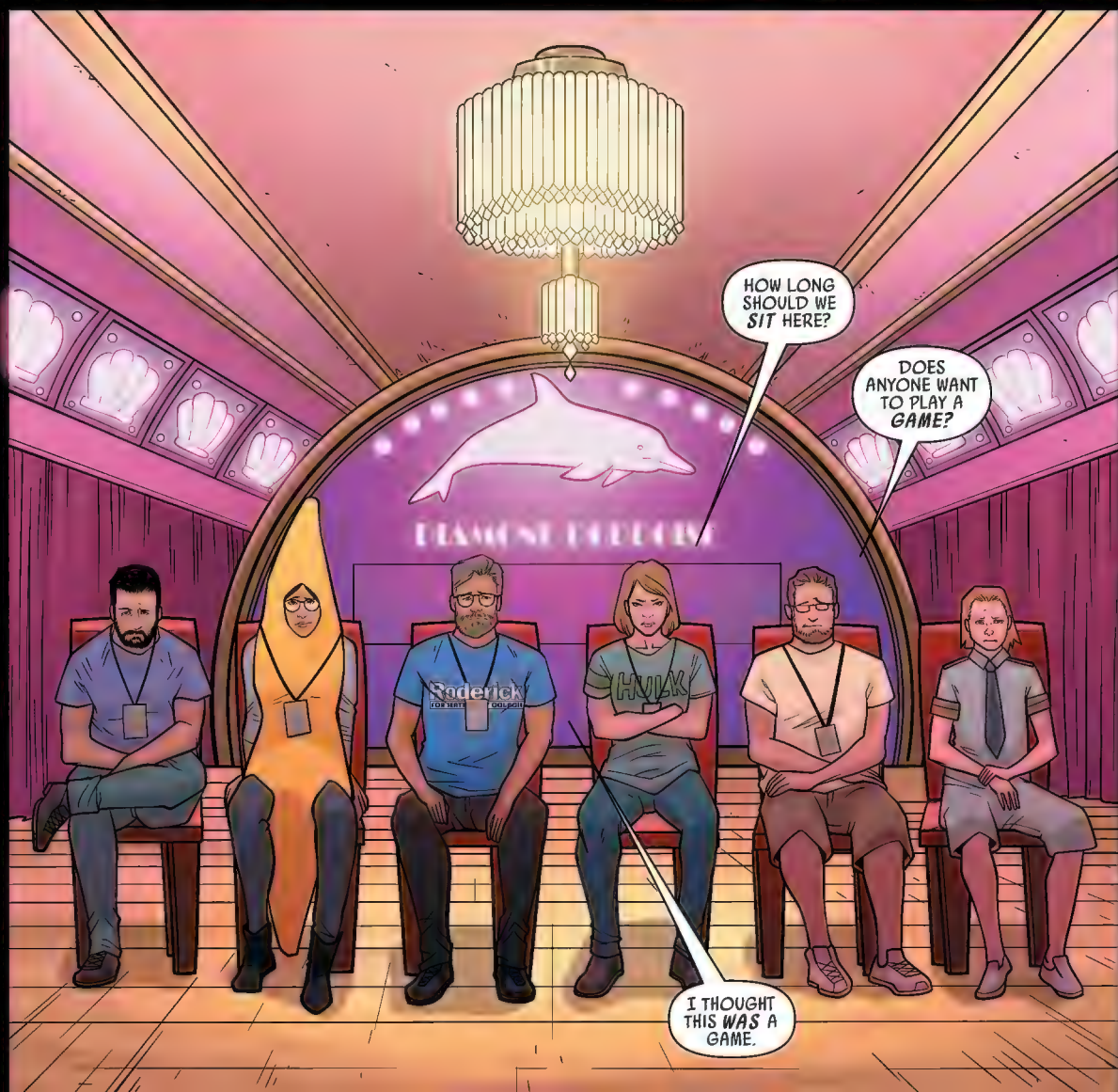




HOW TO MAKE
A DIRTY COWBOY



3/4 BUTTERSCOTCH
SCHNAPPS
1/4 IRISH CREAM



**GARFIELD EDSAL'S
STATEROOM BATHROOM.**



THIS IS WHERE IT HAPPENED.

EDSAL STABBED HIMSELF WITH HIS ROOM SERVICE STEAK KNIFE.

HE TRACKED BLOOD AROUND ON THE FLOOR.

THEN **CLEANED** HIS SHOES, RETURNED TO THE BEDROOM, PUT THE SHOES AWAY, **DROPPED** THE GREEN ARM BAND, LAID DOWN HERE-- SCRAWLED TWO WORDS IN HIS **OWN BLOOD** THAT HE KNEW WOULD GET MY ATTENTION-- AND **DIED**.

SO IT WAS AN ELABORATELY STAGED **SUICIDE?**

IT WAS AN ELABORATELY STAGED **MURDER**.



WHO **KILLED** HIM?

THE **STEAK KNIFE** AND THE **DIRTY COWBOY** CAME FROM ROOM SERVICE AT 2PM.

BUT YOU SAID THE DOOR DIDN'T OPEN AGAIN UNTIL WE FOUND THE BODY?

SO WHAT HAPPENED TO THE **ROOM SERVICE TRAY?**



THE... **TRAY?**

I PUT IT IN THE HALLWAY. THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE **SUPPOSED** TO DO WITH ROOM SERVICE TRAYS.

THEY DRILL IT INTO US AT CRUISE SCHOOL.

CADET TRAINING 101.



YOU WERE **SUPPOSED** TO PUT THAT **TRAY** OUTSIDE THE DOOR, **NEWBIE!**

NOW **DROP** AND GIVE ME **FIFTY!**



IT WAS **AUTOMATIC**. I DIDN'T EVEN **THINK** ABOUT IT.

ANY OF US WOULD HAVE DONE IT.

THAT'S WHAT HE WAS **COUNTING** ON.

WHO?

HUNTER, CHECK THE HALLWAY. IF I'M RIGHT, THE **TRAY** WON'T BE THERE.



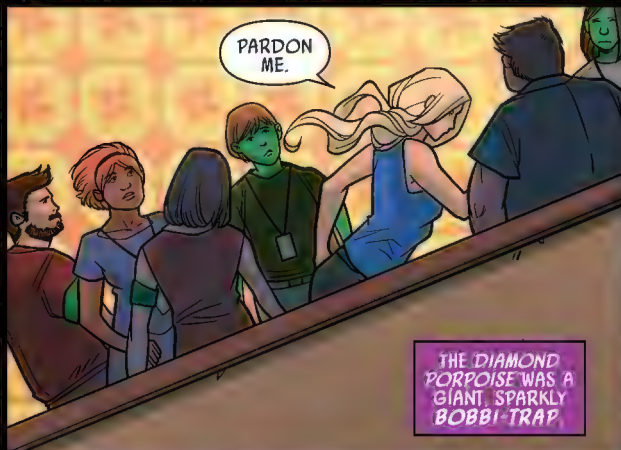
IT'S **GONE**.

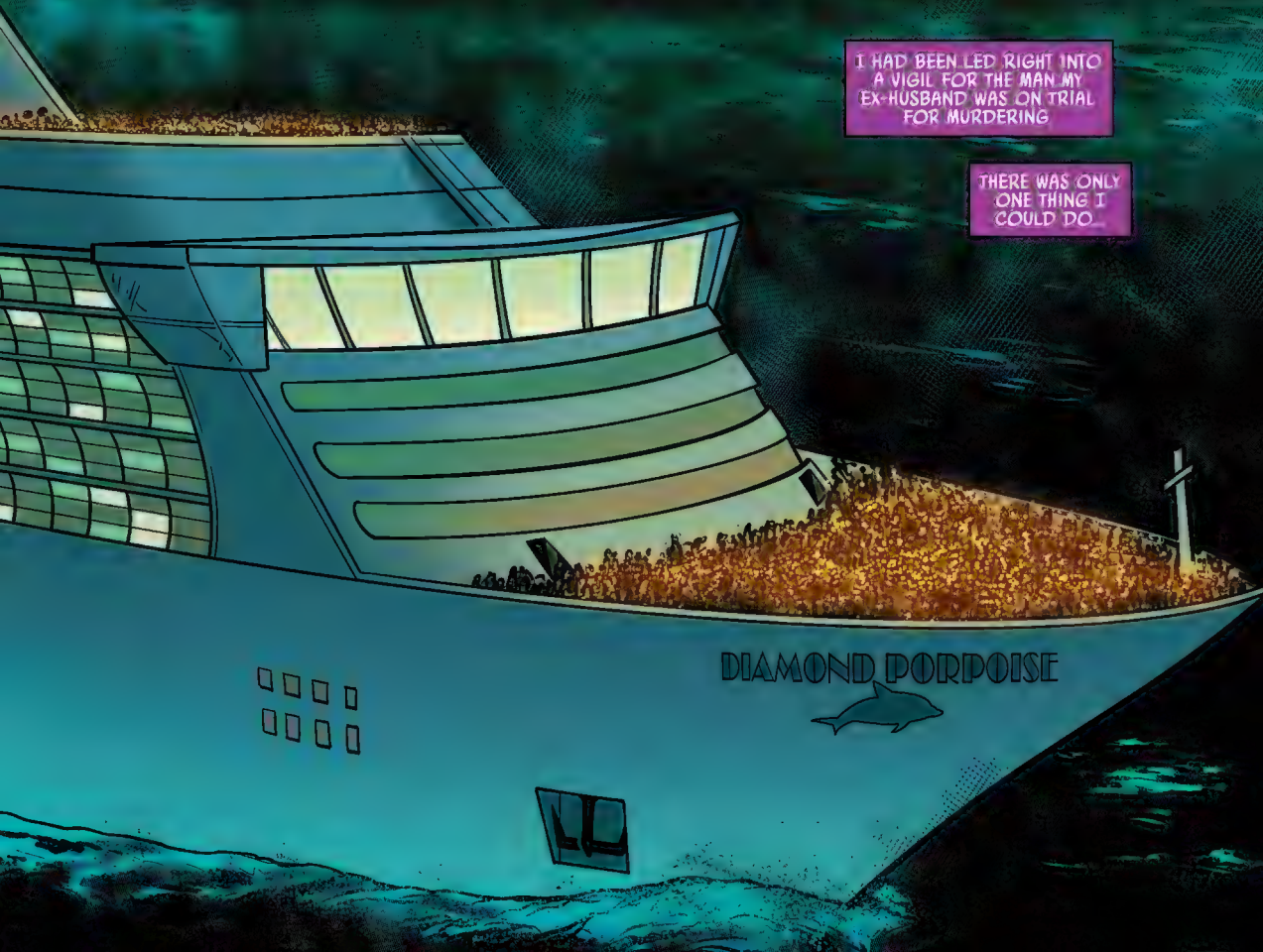
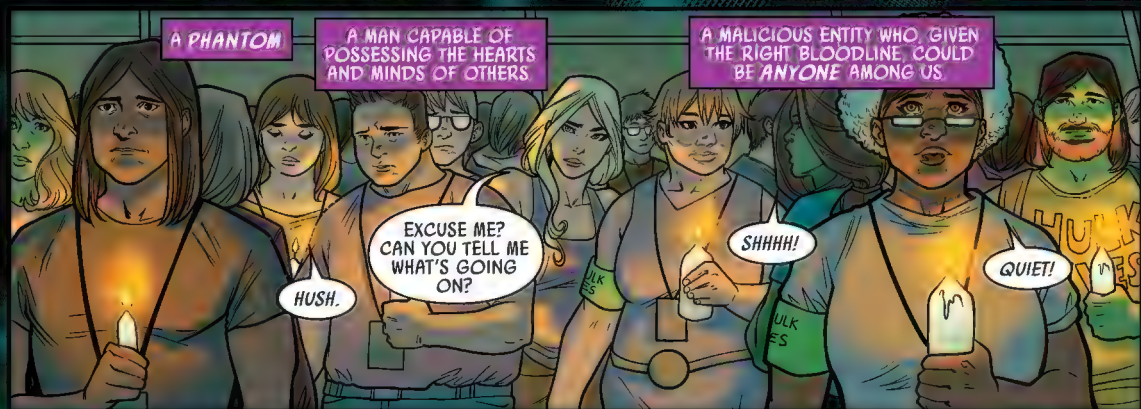
WOOF!



LOOK!

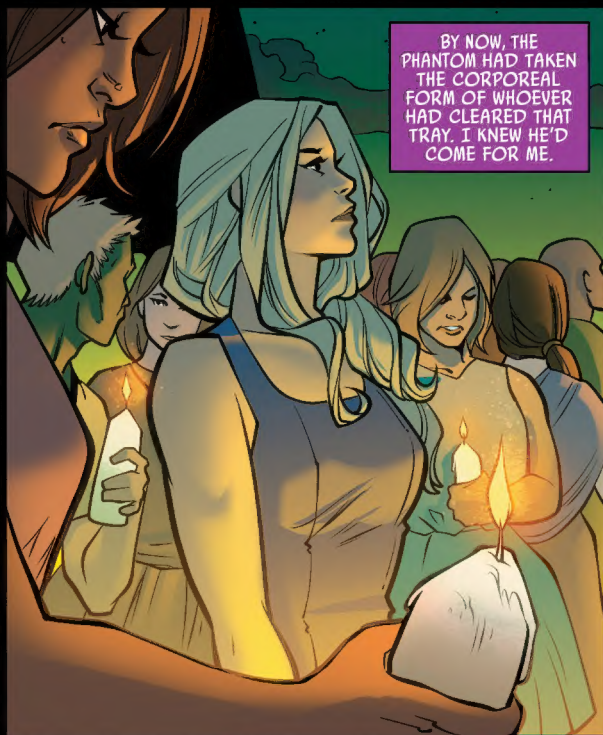
WAIT! YOU, **THERE!**



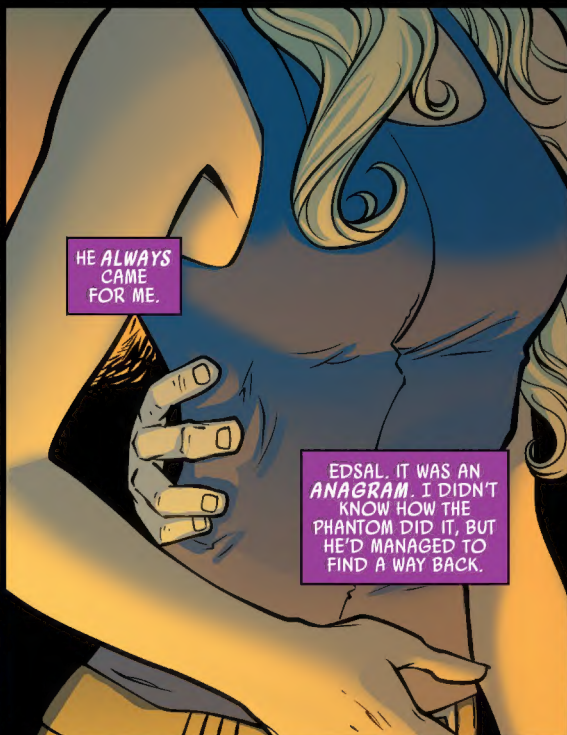


I PAID MY
RESPECTS





BY NOW, THE PHANTOM HAD TAKEN THE CORPOREAL FORM OF WHOEVER HAD CLEARED THAT TRAY. I KNEW HE'D COME FOR ME.



HE ALWAYS CAME FOR ME.

EDSAL. IT WAS AN ANAGRAM. I DIDN'T KNOW HOW THE PHANTOM DID IT, BUT HE'D MANAGED TO FIND A WAY BACK.



HOWDY, BARBARA.

LINCOLN SLADE.

THE PHANTOM RIDER.

HULK LIVES



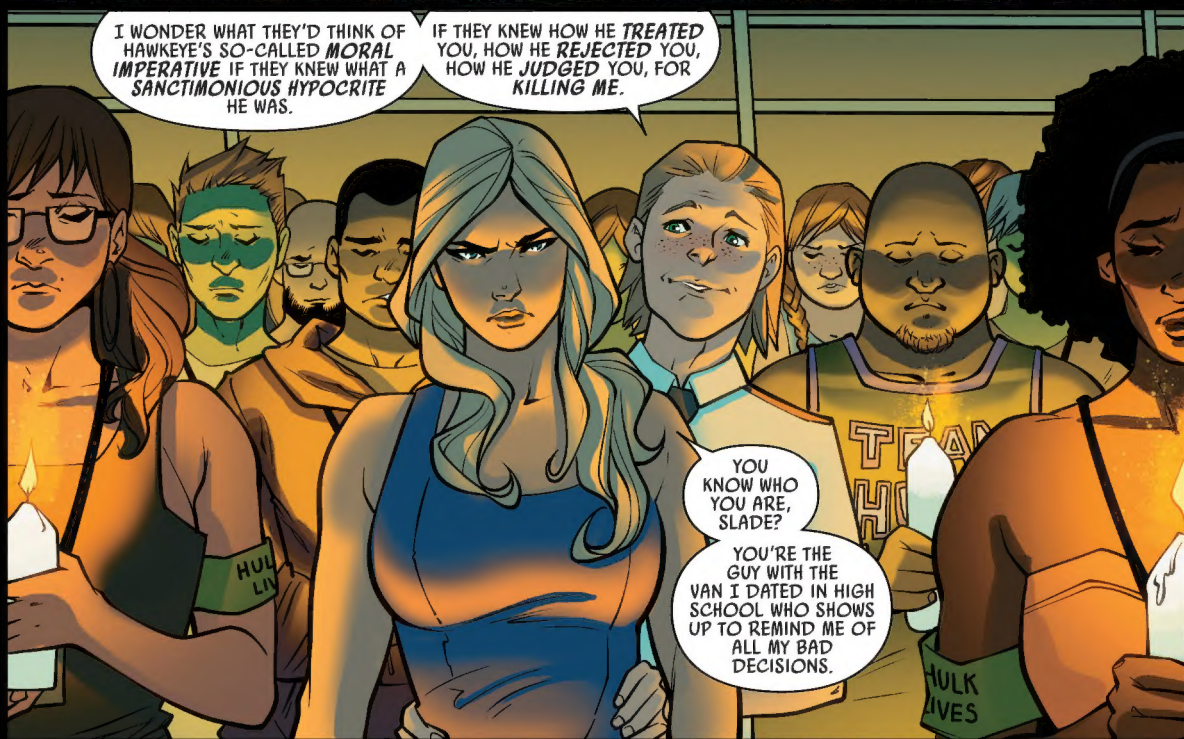
WE'RE GOING TO BE TOGETHER, BARBARA. IT'S OUR DESTINY. YOU KNOW IT. YOU'VE ALWAYS KNOWN IT. IT FRIGHTENS YOU.

JUST LIKE THAT. HE WAS BACK.



HOW'S THE EX-HUSBAND? THINK THE JURY'S OUT YET?

MY STALKER. THE MAN WHO BROKE UP MY MARRIAGE. A MAN I WATCHED DIE.

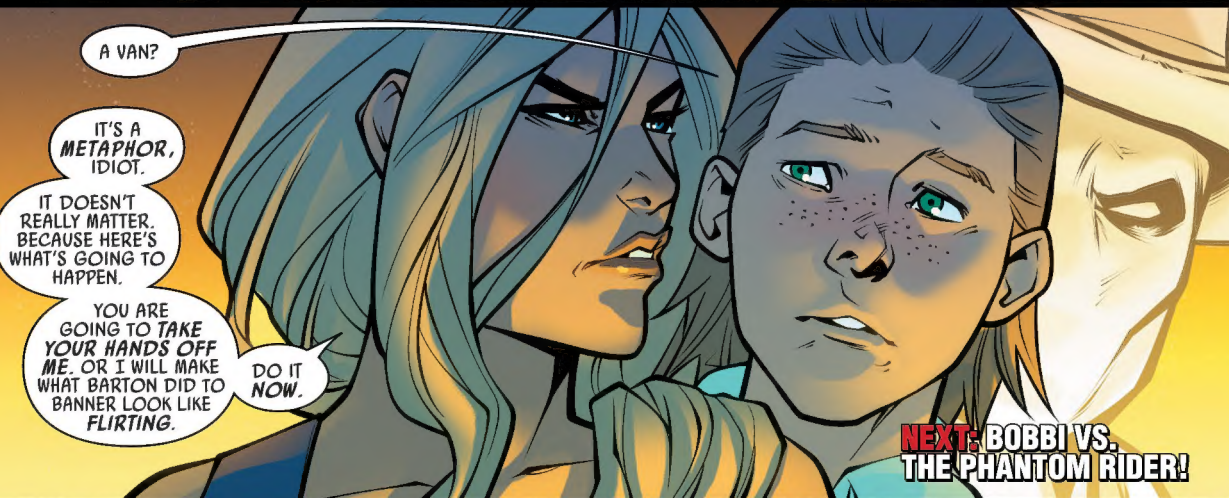


I WONDER WHAT THEY'D THINK OF HAWKEYE'S SO-CALLED MORAL IMPERATIVE IF THEY KNEW WHAT A SANCTIMONIOUS HYPOCRITE HE WAS.

IF THEY KNEW HOW HE TREATED YOU, HOW HE REJECTED YOU, HOW HE JUDGED YOU, FOR KILLING ME.

YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE, SLADE?

YOU'RE THE GUY WITH THE VAN I DATED IN HIGH SCHOOL WHO SHOWS UP TO REMIND ME OF ALL MY BAD DECISIONS.



A VAN?

IT'S A METAPHOR, IDIOT.

IT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER, BECAUSE HERE'S WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN.

YOU ARE GOING TO TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF ME. OR I WILL MAKE WHAT BARTON DID TO BANNER LOOK LIKE FLIRTING.

DO IT NOW.

NEXT: BOBBI VS. THE PHANTOM RIDER!

MORSE CODE

Send all correspondence to MHEROES@MARVEL.COM
Mark your letters "OKAY TO PRINT"!

M

Hello, Mockingbirds! Birdies? Morse-sessives? ...We haven't come up with a fan name yet, have we?

ANYWAYS, hello there, dear reader! This is Christina Harrington, Assistant Editor Extraordinaire, with a treat for this issue's letters page. Since you've all been so vocal in your love for Bobbi and MOCKINGBIRD, I thought I'd bring on a fan-favorite to answer this month's edition of MORSE CODE.

Here he is, the Welsh Dragon, our pint-sized sensation, the incredible corgi, KA-ZAR! Take it away, cutie.

I'm a longtime comic book fan and this is the first time I've written in about anything, for any reason, but MOCKINGBIRD is just so great I feel like I had to say something. Bobbi is strong, funny, and COMPLICATED. Thank you for writing a hero who is also a person!! And thank you for the corgis!!! They are so so so cute.

Beth
Arizona

wags tail a lot* Woof! Woof! *

****Translated from Pembroke Welsh Corgese:**

Aw! Thank you, kind human! We corgis will always strive to support comics and other media that depicts women as fully formed people...not only does this fight stereotyping and the "damsel" effect, but it leads to darn good stories. If you also like stories where women, and all characters, are depicted as three-dimensional people with complicated motives and goals, then you've come to the right place!

This comic book makes me so happy.

My 11-years-old little-girl-self back in 1988 would have thought Bobbi was the coolest thing ever!! Way cooler than Marty McFly, wayyyyyyy cooler than the Ghostbusters, but maybe not as cool as Red Sonja 'cause ya know she was my girl and rocking it for the redheads...but totally cooler than Tarzan...plus, ya know, PAPER DOLLS!!!!

I'm so very happy that little girls have comics like MOCKINGBIRD, CAPTAIN MARVEL, SPIDER-WOMAN and A-FORCE to read. I loved these female heroes growing up, but now they just seem to have so much personality. Amazing job.

Thanks,
Sunshine

*Ruff! Woof woof! YAP YAP YAP! Rufffff ruff! *panting* Bark bark bark ruff woof woof!!***

****The power of love
Is a curious thing
Make one man--**

Wait. Is this just the entirety of Huey Lewis' THE POWER OF LOVE? Dang it, Ka-Zar!

The Hellfire Club, an underwater sea base, a super-power-giving virus... and now a nerd cruise???? MOCKINGBIRD makes me laugh and think, and has action and lots of heart, and I love it. Can't wait to see what other adventures Bobbi gets herself into. Hats off to the entire team!

Make Mine Marvel,
Hank

*Ruff! Ruff ruff rrrrruff!!***

****If I had a hat, I'd take it off to YOU, Hank! And every reader who has supported MOCKINGBIRD and this wonderful creative team. Chelsea, Kate, Sean, Rachelle,**

and Joe all add something special to this wonderful book, and all make it the unique, bold, and just plain awesome series that it is.

(Unfortunately, even IF I had a hat, I probably wouldn't be able to take it off...I have really short arms and no opposable thumbs!)

Thanks for taking the time to answer these letters, Ka-Zar! If you have a suggestion for what we should call the MOCKINGBIRD fandom or even just want to say hey, send us a letter! Maybe Ka-Zar will be here to answer it.

Until then, take care!

Christina H.

Christina "Growl" Harrington

Bark! Bark!



Ka-Zar



ISSUE #8 ON SALE IN OCTOBER

RESTRAINING ORDER

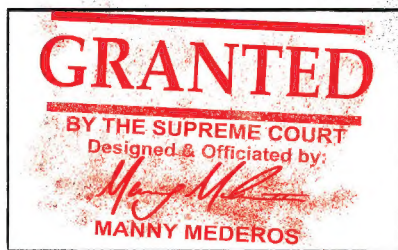
MB 2016 007

APPLICANT NAME: BARBARA "BOBBI" MORSE

FILING ATTORNEY: MATT MURDOCK

ATTORNEY MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY: New York **STATE:** NY **ZIP:** 10020



NAME OF RESTRAINED:

LINCOLN SLADE, A.K.A. THE PHANTOM RIDER

OTHER ALIASES:

Ghost Rider, Night Rider, Son of the Spirits,
He Who Rides The Night Winds

KNOWN ASSOCIATES:

BANSHEE, his horse



Attach photo of restrained to this page if available.

DESCRIPTION OF RESTRAINED PERSON:

Sex: ☒ **M** ☐ **F** Height: 5' 11" Weight: 190 lbs. DOB: early 1800s

Hair Color: phosphorescent white Eye Color: phosphorescent white

Race: phosphorescent white Age: Technically dead

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: Texas? Zip: _____

Relationship to protected person:

Stalker ex-boyfriend

DESCRIPTION OF EVENT IN QUESTION:

Lincoln Slade broke up my marriage to Clint Barton and continues to harass me. While I briefly cohabited with Mr. Slade, it should be noted that this was during a difficult period of my marriage, and also I had traveled back in time and was trapped in the Old West. While I have clearly and emphatically expressed my lack of interest in Mr. Slade, to this day he continues to pursue my affections. I fear he may harm me or my ex-husband, Hawkeye.

MB 2016 007